

Docket No.: 57810-075



IPW

**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

|                             |   |                           |
|-----------------------------|---|---------------------------|
| In re Application of        | : | Customer Number: 20277    |
| Naoya SOTANI, et al.        | : | Confirmation Number: 6107 |
| Application No.: 10/660,609 | : | Group Art Unit: 2877      |
| Filed: September 12, 2003   | : | Examiner:                 |

For: METHOD OF FABRICATING SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE AND SYSTEM OF  
FABRICATING SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

Mail Stop Restriction Requirement  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In the Office Action dated October 20, 2004, the Examiner imposed a species requirement<sup>1</sup> pursuant to 35 U.S.C. §121, requiring election of one of the following species:

Species I. The method disclose commencing at page 6 of the written description of the specification; or

Species II. The system disclosed commencing at page 17.

In response, Applicants elect to prosecute Species I. Applicants designate method claims 1 through 20 as readable on elected Species I.

Favorable consideration of method claims 1 through 20 is solicited.

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<sup>1</sup> It may be that the Examiner intended to impose a restriction requirement rather than a requirement for an election of species.

10/660,609

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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**Date: November 15, 2004**